



Waltham Forest News

Your Council keeping residents informed

www.walthamforest.gov.uk

Issue 37, 21 February 2011

School review victory

Council wins legal battle to make government reconsider decision to scrap £275 million school building scheme

A High Court judge has ordered the education secretary, Michael Gove, to reconsider his decision to cancel £275 million of school rebuilding projects in Waltham Forest.

Mr Justice Holman said the Education Secretary's actions over the scrapping of the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) initiative last year had been "so unfair as to amount to an abuse of power."

While the judge ruled that the government were within their rights to make a decision about the programme, Justice Holman told the High Court in London that the Education Secretary had acted unlawfully in failing to consult local authorities over the decision and had broken the law by failing to give "due regard" to equality legislation.

The court case at the High Court on Friday 11 February was brought by Waltham Forest Council and five other local authorities who said that the decision to cancel their BSF projects had been unfair and legally flawed.

Waltham Forest Council Leader, Cllr Chris Robbins, said: "It is a victory for common sense and fair play. The government must now make a



Pupils at Holy Family Technology College celebrate the Judicial Review judgement

decision on our funding based on the real evidence about the difficulties our schools face.

"Whilst we are disappointed that we had to pursue a judicial review to get the government

about improving schools for our young people."

Waltham Forest saw 19 school building projects, worth a total of £275 million scrapped by the coalition government in July last year.

The government must now properly consult with the Council about funding for schools.

Keep an eye out for more information in future editions of Waltham Forest News.

"It is a victory for common sense and fair play. The government must now make a decision on our funding based on the difficulties our schools face."

"We have said all along that we want to sit down and have an amicable discussion with the government about funding.

to reconsider their decision, we are hopeful that this judgement will now open the door to a real and constructive conversation

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In my opinion

Eve Wilson
Headteacher, Willowfield Humanities College



I firmly believe that schools are much more than their buildings. Great schools can exist in poor buildings and mediocre or poor schools in the newest and shiniest facilities. Great schools are created by the positive relationships

between students, staff and parents and, critically, by the ambitions and aspirations of skilled teachers for their pupils.

I am privileged to be a headteacher in a great school. I am proud of the students and staff I work with and that our results beat the national average despite the disadvantages many students have to overcome.

When the Secretary of State for Education, Michael Gove cancelled Willowfield's new school in July last year we were heartbroken. Our new school was agreed in 2005 but because this is a densely built up area, finding a site large enough for us to admit an extra 400 students was not easy. At last the council managed to purchase

"I am privileged to be a headteacher in a great school. I am proud of the students and staff I work with"

the perfect place – five minutes from our present school so we could serve the same community, in the heart of the Blackhorse Lane regeneration area and adjacent to playing fields. We had spent five hours in a meeting with architects on the day our school was cancelled.

We weren't asking for luxury – we wanted a building where the roof didn't leak, the collapsed drains didn't smell and windows weren't nailed shut because of the rotting frames. We wanted access to basic sports facilities so our students could learn how to keep healthy and to be a bigger school so we could offer more subjects and accommodate all the children who want to come here including those with disabilities. Above all, we wanted our students to feel valued.

And so, we really welcome the judgement from the judicial review. The judge described the decision about Waltham Forest as "so unfair as to amount to an abuse of power" and we are pleased to feel our disappointment has been justified. This doesn't bring our new school back but Mr Gove is obliged to look at the projects he cancelled. In terms of dilapidation and need for school places, the cancelled projects in Waltham Forest tick the government's boxes. We must hope the review is carried out fairly and fast – children get only one chance.

Want to have your say?
If you live or work in Waltham Forest, have something you'd like to get off your chest, and can do it in around 300 words; Waltham Forest News wants to hear from you. Email the Editor at: walthamforestnews@walthamforest.gov.uk and tell us what you'd like to write about.



Environmental Health officers stopped this contaminated meat from entering the food chain

Bad meat destroyed

- Contaminated meat discovered abandoned on street
- Half a tonne of lamb and poultry ordered to be destroyed after birds spotted landing on it

A food safety inspector ordered half a tonne of meat to be seized and destroyed after finding it left in the open air near industrial units in Walthamstow.

The unlabelled lamb and poultry had been left in Sutherland Road on Thursday 27 January. It was spotted by a Waltham Forest Council environmental health officer and a meat inspector from the Food Standards Agency on a routine inspection.

Despite investigating, none of the nearby units – many of which make kebab meat and

chicken portions for takeaways across London – admitted to owning the meat, which was worth an estimated £800.

The environmental health officer told Waltham Forest News: "We seized and destroyed the meat to make sure it couldn't enter the food chain and cause a risk to public health."

"We had absolutely no idea how long it had been standing there or what it had been exposed to while it was on the side of the road. We had even seen seagulls and starlings swooping down and pecking at it.

"We didn't have any choice but to remove it because we didn't know if it was fit to eat or if it had been contaminated."

While the officer phoned a company to remove the meat, a worker from one of the nearby units had to be prevented from removing it with a fork lift truck.

Waltham Forest Council's Cabinet Member for Environment, Cllr Clyde Loakes, said: "It is only down to the vigilance and dedication of our environmental health officers that this food, which was

clearly unfit for human consumption, was removed from the food chain and the public protected.

"Businesses need to behave in an appropriate way to ensure they are protecting their customers' health. If they try to cut costs by using unsafe ingredients we'll take firm action against them."

More info
If you have any concerns about food businesses in Waltham Forest phone environmental health on 020 8496 3000.

Waltham Forest News

Editor: Jenny England
Waltham Forest News wants to hear from people in the local community. If you have a story that you'd like us to cover, email walthamforestnews@walthamforest.gov.uk or call 020 8496 3000.

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Sharing services

- Economic development units in Waltham Forest and Haringey to be shared
- Move will save an estimated £200,000 a year

Waltham Forest Council and Haringey Council have agreed to share services that are designed to get residents from the two boroughs into work.

Following decisions by their respective cabinets, the two Councils have agreed in principle to share their economic development units, with services expected to be

fully merged by 2011/12. The move follows the boroughs agreeing to share a range of services last year. The economic development unit will be the first service to

be shared, and the move is expected to save the boroughs an estimated £200,000 a year.

Waltham Forest Council's Cabinet Member for Corporate Resources, Business and Employment, Cllr Afzal Akram, told Waltham Forest News: "Given the state of the economy, these services have never been more important. This move will allow residents to improve their skills and assist them in finding much needed jobs. By joining services together we'll be able to provide a better, more efficient service which will in turn benefit the local economy and boost the long term prosperity of our borough.

"Sharing this service will help us reduce costs such as offices, management and equipment but we still need to do a number of things – including consult staff and trade unions – before this is finalised."

The economic development unit is responsible for promoting employment and skills and tackling joblessness by helping businesses and the economy grow to help residents get better jobs.

Waltham Forest and Haringey have agreed a Memorandum of Understanding on shared services which sets out a joint approach and the aims and principles of joint working. The agreement comes as part of a plan by Waltham Forest Council to make estimated savings of £65 million over the next four years.

Keep an eye out for future editions of Waltham Forest News for more information on shared services.



The economic development team will aim to get residents of Waltham Forest and Haringey into jobs



Live in concert at Destiny Community Church

Date: Sunday 27 February • Time: 3pm • Admission: FREE

Leytonstone Business School, Colworth Road, Leytonstone, London, E11 1JD
The closest tube station is Leytonstone (Central Line) • Bus: W15, W19
Opposite Wipps Cross Hospital

We also meet on Sunday mornings at 11am

Contact: 08456711215 • Email: info@destinycommunitychurch.org.uk • www.destiny-london.com

Leader's view

Cllr Chris Robbins

Leader - Waltham Forest Council

It has been a momentous time for Waltham Forest this month after we secured a judicial review of the Government's decision to scrap building schools for the future in the borough.



The £275 million Building Schools for the Future (BSF) project was cancelled by the government last July, without them asking us how the cuts would affect Waltham Forest.

However on Friday 11 February a High Court Judge, Mr Justice Holman, ruled that the Government's decision to abandon the 19 schemes in Waltham Forest – and dozens more in five other areas – was unlawful and amounted to an 'abuse of power.'

I'd like to thank residents for their support on this matter and I hope they are as pleased with the result as I am.

The Government must now go back and reconsider its decision and properly consult with us, and other Councils, and then take a decision with 'an open mind'.

While I am delighted to have won this case, it gives me absolutely no pleasure to take anyone to court. Sadly this was the only option available to us, as up until the court case was heard the Government refused to explain how they had come to their decision on Waltham Forest's schools and to ask us about its impact locally.

Winning the judicial review is only the first step in our continuing fight to make sure we derive real benefits for our young people. The judgement does not mean that the decision to scrap the scheme in Waltham Forest will necessarily be reversed but it at least opens the door for our schools to be reconsidered.

In all we lost 19 projects and around £275 million of funding to improve those schools and we estimate 10,000 young people will suffer if we do not invest that money on improving old, out of date and crumbling school buildings.

We are lucky that the teaching in Waltham Forest is excellent and we have a group of talented and dedicated headteachers who consistently produce good, and steadily improving, GCSE results every year. However many of our schools are simply not fit for purpose.

That is where the government needs to come in and make money available to ensure our children have the facilities and buildings they deserve to maximise their chances of a great education and an enjoyable career in school.

Get involved

I'd like to hear from you. I have a page on the website where you can get more information and email me www.walthamforest.gov.uk/leader and you can write to me at the town hall.

More info

For more information on economic development visit www.walthamforest.gov.uk/economic-development. Free internet access is available at all libraries in the borough.

In brief

LGBT history

While LGBT ('lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender') History Month might be drawing to a close, there's still plenty to see, do and get involved with. As well as the ongoing 'Walking Proud' oral history exhibition at Vestry House Museum and the chance to check out some LGBT fiction at one of the borough's libraries, there'll be a LGBT safety awareness event at Walthamstow Town Square from 12noon-3pm on Saturday 26 February and the chance to hear from award-winning author Ellen Galford at North Chingford Library (The Green, Station Road, Chingford E4 7EN) on Monday 7 March from 7.45pm.

- To find out more about LGBT History Month in Waltham Forest visit www.walthamforest.gov.uk/lgbt-history-month or phone 020 8496 3000.

YMCA's fundraising fun

Frying pans at the ready; Forest YMCA is hosting a fundraising pancake race in aid of The Mayor of Waltham Forest's charity appeal on Shrove Tuesday. The race, which starts at 11.30am on Tuesday 8 March, will see teams of four racing round the fountain at Waltham Forest Town Hall and flipping pancakes. Forest YMCA will supply the pancakes, chef's hats, aprons and frying pans, so competitors just need their running shoes and team spirit. Judges will be on hand to assess the pancake flipping prowess, and the winners will be crowned the 2011 Great Pancake Flippers of Waltham Forest. Teams of four people can enter for £10 and are encouraged to seek extra sponsorship. All proceeds will go to Cllr Masood Ahmad's charity appeal for Whipps Cross Hospital and The Farishte Trust, a local charity that offers respite care for disabled young people. Please submit your chosen team name and contact details by Friday 4 March.

- To enter a team contact Richard Finch, Forest YMCA, 642 Forest Road, Walthamstow, E17 3EF or email rfinch@forestymca.org.uk.

Green business help

A series of free training workshops are being offered to businesses in Waltham Forest, offering advice on how to go green, how to make your company more competitive and how to get staff onboard with eco-friendly initiatives. There will be three different workshops running throughout March, the topics discussed being 'going green and staying green: engaging staff on sustainability', 'understanding your environmental impacts' and 'principles of environmental management'. At each session there will also be the chance to find out about the new Waltham Forest Low Carbon Business Network, a great place for networking, sharing experiences and generating ideas about your business and the environment.

- To find out more visit www.walthamforest.gov.uk/wf-low-carbon-business-network, email climate.change@walthamforest.gov.uk or phone Hannah on 020 7527 2358.



Local charities and voluntary organisations are facing tough times

Voluntary sector changes

- Cuts to council budgets mean changes to the way charities and voluntary organisations receive funding
- Manager of Walthamstow Citizens Advice Bureau discusses changes and future challenges

The fact that the Council has to save £65m over the next four years means major changes for every service it provides, and this also means changes to the way charities, community groups and voluntary organisations are funded.

Work began last year to help and prepare the voluntary sector, with the Council once again proposing that services be 'bought' based on value for money and the needs of residents.

One organisation to receive funding is Waltham Forest Citizens Advice Bureau Service (CAB). The CAB provides free, independent, and confidential advice to

residents on matters such as welfare benefits, debt, immigration and employment.

The CAB made two successful bids, one for general advice funding and one for specific money and debt advice. The latter will, from May 2011, allow CAB workers to deliver targeted money advice and help residents avoid debt.

"The Council has been very supportive over the years and we're really grateful for the funding, but it is going to be challenging," Walthamstow CAB Manager Steve Johnson told Waltham Forest News. "While we've done better than some other London CAB branches we're now receiving £100,000 less

funding than last year (a 15% reduction), and that will have an impact. We've already started to develop a more telephone-based service, and we aim to improve this in the coming months. However, the reality is that in order to help meet demand we'll have to give less advice to a lot of people rather than vice versa."

The CAB anticipates an increase in residents contacting them because of widespread changes across the public sector. "The recession hit a lot of people extremely hard but there will be many more who'll be feeling the pinch this year and next," Steve predicts. "With changes to sickness and housing

benefits, legal aid and social services there'll be many more people seeking our help. Nevertheless, we'll be rising to the challenge and doing our best to ensure residents receive the advice and support they need."

More info

To find out more about how the Council works with the voluntary sector visit www.walthamforest.gov.uk/voluntary-sector-and-volunteering To find out more about Walthamstow CAB visit www.walthamforestcab.org.uk or their offices at Church Hill Business Centre, 6 Church Hill, Walthamstow E17 3AG.

International Women's Day

- International Women's Day celebrates its centenary on Tuesday 8 March
- Walthamstow Library to hold special event for women to mark the occasion



International Women's Day

International Women's Day (IDW) is celebrating its centenary this year. And to help mark this auspicious occasion, Walthamstow Library is hosting an information and education fair for local women on Tuesday 8 March.

The event, which will be opened by Jeanette Arnold,

London Assembly Member for Hackney, Islington and Waltham Forest, takes place at Walthamstow Library (High Street, Walthamstow, E17 7JN) from 10am to 4pm.

Working in partnership with the University of East London (UEL) and Waltham Forest Women in Business, the library has arranged for a number of organisations to attend.

There will be over 25 stalls providing advice to women on getting into work, pursuing educational or training courses, furthering their career and taking advantage of business opportunities.

UEL, and other educational

groups, will be on hand to help with Curriculum Vitae writing, advice on apprenticeships schemes, IT skills and overseas qualifications.

There will also be fun activities such as henna art, a fashion show and a talk by author Nicola Lees. Black Women in Art, a local art group, will exhibit work by female artists at the library throughout March.

The first IDW was celebrated in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland on 19 March 1911. More than one million men and women attended IWD rallies campaigning for women's rights to work, vote, be trained and end discrimination. The day was moved to 8 March in 1913 and has remained the global date for IDW ever since.

Cllr Marie Pye, Cabinet Member for Housing and Development, told Waltham Forest News: "I'm delighted that Walthamstow Library is hosting an event that goes back to the origins of IWD and helping local women to access educational and working opportunities.

"I would urge all women to come along to the event, and find out how they can take advantage of the opportunities open to them in the borough. I'm sure the event will prove to be a great success."

More info

For more information on International Women's Day visit www.internationalwomensday.com. For information on the event at Walthamstow Library call 020 8496 3000.

In brief

Fairtrade fortnight

Organiclea is encouraging residents to give fairtrade produce a try at the Hornbeam Café and community stall, 458 Hoe Street, Walthamstow, this Fairtrade Fortnight. Fairtrade Fortnight runs from 28 February until 13 March and encourages people to swap some of their regular groceries; like tea, chocolate, rice and fruit, for fairtrade alternatives. Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions and local sustainability for farmers and workers in the developing world. The community stall is open outside the Hornbeam Café every Saturday from 10am-3pm. There will be lots of fairtrade treats for you to try.

• For more information on Organiclea visit www.organiclea.org.uk. For more information on Fairtrade Fortnight visit www.fairtrade.org.uk.

Moneywise pupils

Hundreds of young people are getting the chance to launch their own business or become savvy savers following the launch of an online youth enterprise bank. Walthamstow Academy's "MyBnk-in-a-Box" is the UK's only Financial Services Authority-friendly independent school banking system, and part of a financial literacy drive in Waltham Forest. It provides young people with a unique opportunity to bank, borrow and apply for interest-free loans of up to £100 to start their very own businesses. Charity MyBnk has trained a board of 15 young managers from Years 9 and 12 to run the bank for 200 Year 7 students. Eventually the scheme will be rolled out to the entire school – that's nearly 1000 youths saving and launching enterprises for the first time.

• For more information about Mybnk visit www.mybnk.org. Free internet access is available at all libraries in the borough.

The 2011 Census will be sent to you in March



- The Census is completely confidential. All personal information is protected by law for 100 years
- The Census should be completed by every resident
- The Census can be completed online or on paper
- The Census underpins funding for your council and the services it provides to you
- For more information about the Census please visit: www.census.gov.uk or phone the Census helpline on 0300 0201 101 (charged at local rate)

Make the 2011 Census count for our borough – fill in your form as soon as you receive it.



I'm filling in my census because it means more money for Waltham Forest



Our Environment

In brief



Named and shamed

The Council is committed to cleaning up the borough and wiping out enviro-crime in Waltham Forest. We will be taking tough action against those people who continue to blight our borough, and will name and shame the people we catch treating our borough like a dumping ground.

The following people and companies have been successfully prosecuted for enviro-crimes:

Who? Mark James

Where from? Welling

The offence? No waste carriers licence

The outcome? £525 fine, £200 costs and a £15 victim surcharge

Who? Chrystella Nicolas

Where from? Enfield

The offence? Duty of care*

The outcome? Conditional discharge 6 months, £50 costs

Who? Zvaid Tchavtchavadeze

Where from? Chingford

The offence? Fly-tipping

The outcome? £350 fine, £585 costs and a £15 victim surcharge

Who? Tahir Razzaq

Where from? Leyton

The offence? Fly-tipping, failure to produce waste transfer notes

The outcome? £750 fine, £700 costs and a £15 victim surcharge

Who? Nijeesh Nattur

Where from? Leytonstone

The offence? Two charges of fly-tipping, three charges of duty of care*

The outcome? £500 fine, £250 costs and a £15 victim surcharge

Who? Das Sereedharan

Where from? Leytonstone

The offence? Fly-tipping, duty of care*

The outcome? £2000 fine, £1000 costs and a £15 victim surcharge

Who? David Neal

Where from? Leytonstone

The offence? Littering

The outcome? £100 fine, £220 costs and a £15 victim surcharge

*Residents have a duty of care to ensure that any waste produced by them is disposed of legally. Failure to ensure that waste is correctly disposed of can lead to prosecution. If you give waste to someone who then fly-tips it you can be prosecuted.

• To find out more about the Council's award-winning 'We're wiping out enviro-crime' campaign visit www.walthamforest.gov.uk/wipeitout Report an enviro-crime by visiting www.walthamforest.gov.uk/report-it or phone Waltham Forest Direct on 020 8496 3000.



Enforcement Officers have been working hard to find evidence to catch fly-tippers

Fly-tipping plunges

- New Council policies help cut fly-tipping by 18 per cent in Waltham Forest
- Figures for December 2010 are the lowest on record

Fly-tipping in Waltham Forest appears to be falling dramatically following the introduction of a raft of measures designed to stamp out the crime.

Free bulky waste collections, more enforcement against offenders and a better clear all service helped reduced the number of fly-tips in Waltham Forest by 18 per cent in December 2010 compared with the same month in 2009.

Waltham Forest Council's Cabinet Member for Environment, Cllr Clyde Loakes, told Waltham Forest News: "This is really good news. Residents told us they were sick of people treating our streets like a rubbish tip so we did something about it and our officers are working extremely hard to make sure our new approach works.

"There is absolutely no excuse to leave unwanted items like sofas, mattresses

or washing machines on the street for other people to clear up and we're taking a very tough line on those people who think that sort of behaviour is acceptable.

"But what we are also finding is that our free bulky waste collection is very popular with residents and that helps to

encourage them to dispose of their rubbish lawfully instead of paying a 'man with a van' to get rid of it."

December 2010 saw the lowest number of recorded fly-tips on record – 355. The Council is now aiming to reduce that figure further as part of its ongoing aim of

improving the appearance of the borough.

Other factors which have helped reduce fly-tipping are better awareness of the waste disposal services available, timed rubbish collections across the borough and a clampdown on dirty front gardens.

The work to reduce fly-tipping is all part of Waltham Forest Council's award-winning 'Wiping out enviro-crime' campaign, which aims to tackle littering, fly-tipping and dog fouling in Waltham Forest.

See the latest prosecutions for fly-tipping in the column to the left of this story.

Fact file

- Residents who have large items to dispose of can order a free bulky waste collection from the Council.
- The bulky waste collection service is for specified items. It is not a house or garden clearance service. Certain items such as asbestos, car parts, business and trade waste cannot be collected.
- There will be no specific limit on the number of collections in any year. However abuse of the system, such as repeated large collections from the same address, will not be allowed.
- Waste generated by trades people that have been employed to carry out work (such as installing a new kitchen) is classified as industrial waste. It is the responsibility of the trader to dispose of.
- When you request a free bulky collection you will be told the day when your bulky waste will be collected, which will be within a maximum of six working days.
- A full list of the items which can be collected is available on the Council website at www.walthamforest.gov.uk/bulky-collections or by calling Waltham Forest Direct on 020 8496 3000.

More info

To find out more about the 'Wiping out enviro-crime' campaign visit www.walthamforest.gov.uk/wipeitout. Free internet access is available in all the borough's libraries.

Recycling changes

- Mixed recycling to be brought in across Waltham Forest after a successful pilot scheme
- Nothing changes until April, keep an eye out for more information in future editions of Waltham Forest News



Recycling more will save local taxpayers money

A new waste policy which guarantees weekly rubbish and recycling collections has been agreed by the Council.

The decision also means that recycling will be collected on a mixed basis as part of a drive to increase recycling rates and reduce landfill taxes

which increase by £8 per tonne, per year.

Mixed recycling means that your recyclables, such as newspapers, plastic bottles, glass and food and drink cans, are put into one recycling vehicle and sorted later – rather than being sorted at the roadside.

Waltham Forest Council's Cabinet Member for Environment, Cllr Clyde Loakes, said: "Our residents have told us they want us to collect their rubbish and recycling every week – so that is what we are going to do.

"We have to make changes to the way in which we collect rubbish and recycling to make our scheme more efficient and reduce the amount we spend on sending rubbish to landfill sites.

"We think the new arrangements will mean a significant improvement to recycling rates in Waltham Forest and help us play our part in protecting the environment for future generations."

The new arrangements will come into force in April and the range of things that can be recycled will be increased.

To cope with the extra recycling people are expected to generate, every household will receive a green wheelie bin.

Every one per cent of rubbish which is recycled instead of being sent to landfill will save Waltham Forest Council £226,000 and significantly reduces the borough's carbon emissions.

Keep an eye out for future editions of Waltham Forest News for more information on changes to recycling.

More info

To find out more about rubbish and recycling visit www.walthamforest.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling or phone the Public Realm team on 020 8496 3000. Free internet access is available in all the borough's libraries.

In brief



Calling all conservation volunteers

Lea Bridge Conservation Volunteers (LBCV) is inviting new people to join them for hands-on practical conservation tasks in and around the borough.. The group meets on the first Sunday of every month for conservation work in Lea Valley Regional Park and elsewhere in Waltham Forest. No experience is necessary as training, tools and even tea and biscuits are provided for volunteers. Conservation tasks take place throughout the year, whatever the weather. Many tasks are suitable for families, although under 16s must be accompanied by a responsible adult. So if you fancy doing your bit for the environment, why not contact LBCV to find out more?

• For more information about LBCV visit www.lbcv.co.uk or phone 07757 766950.

Waltham Forest Spring Clean

JOIN US!

Join us at a Waltham Forest Spring Clean
Friday 25 - Sunday 27 March

To sign up or for more information contact Amanda Karrinton on 020 8496 3000 or email amanda.karrinton@walthamforest.gov.uk or visit www.walthamforest.gov.uk/spring-clean



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RINEY

WE'RE WIPING OUT ENVIRO-CRIME



What's On

Sports and fitness

Blackhorse and Standard Women's Morris Dance

Most Wednesdays, 8-10pm.

St Gabriel's Family Centre, Havant Road (off Wood Street) Walthamstow E17.

Blackhorse and Standard Women's Morris dancers practice weekly during term time at St Gabriel's Family Centre. New Members always welcome, no experience necessary. See www.blackhorseandstandard.org.uk or ring 020 8527 2926 for further information.



Titan Freestyle Martial Arts

Wednesdays 7-8pm.

Peter May Leisure Centre, 135 Wadham Road, Walthamstow, E17 4HR.

Titan Freestyle Martial Arts is a fusion of kickboxing, karate and self-defence. A fun way to burn fat, improve stamina and tone muscles. Students will be taught how to strike and kick safely, using a variety of equipment such as focus pads, kick shields and kick bag. For ages seven and over. £4 per session for 7-15 year olds, £5 per session for 16 and over. First session free.

Phone Jason on 07764 791982 or Tonya on 07753 744893, visit www.titanfreestyle.com or email info@titanfreestyle.com.

Ben's Badders

Every Wednesday, 8-10pm.

Peter May Sports Centre Badminton Club. £3 for one hour, £5 for two hours or £40 for 12 two-hour games.

For more information phone Martin Reynolds on 07813 501648.

Lea Valley Friends' Group

Sunday 6 March, 10.30am.

Meet us in the car park opposite Fish and Eels Pub, Dobbs Weir Road, Hoddesdon, EN11 0AY. For a pleasant walk following part of the New River. From Chingford A112 Sewardstone Road, then B194

Crooked Mile. After three miles turn left B194 Waltham Road, then turn left into Dobbs Weir Road. Car park about one mile on left side of road, opposite Fish and Eels Pub.

West Essex Ramblers

Days and times vary.

We are a friendly group with four walks a week on Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. Walks take place both in London and Countryside and vary in length. We also offer coach rambles and holidays. Sorry, no dogs.

For a free sample programme phone 020 8502 1628 or visit www.westessexramblers.org.uk

Karate Classes

Tuesdays 5.30pm

and Fridays 6pm – Waltham Forest Pool and Track.

Tuesdays 6.30pm –

The Peter May Sports Centre.

Thursdays 7pm –

Forest School.

Sundays 12 noon –

Larkswood Leisure Centre.

Everyone is welcome to try but children must be over the age of 6. No special clothing is required, just wear something loose fitting.

Free Introductory Class

To find out more visit

www.karate-london.co.uk

Traditional tai chi and kung fu classes

Days and times vary.

Unit 11, Kimberley Industrial Estate, Cheney Row, Billet Road, Walthamstow.

Yang family tai chi classes for beginners and improvers. Every Monday and Friday from 7-8.30 pm. Hung Gar kung fu classes Monday 7pm and Saturday 11am. Beginners and students of all levels welcome. Private lessons by arrangement.

For further info call Damian on 07723 595800.

Eton Manor Athletics Club

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7.15pm.

Marsh Lane, Leyton, E10 7BL.

A friendly running club for people who'd "Love2Run" in the south of Waltham Forest. Group runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7.15 cater for runners and joggers of all standards. Special jog/walk sessions for beginners are held on Thursdays at 7.15pm.

Further details from Club

Secretary Steve Dunn

Phone 020 8521 2505, e-mail etonmanorac2013@gmail.com

Visit our website: www.etonmanor.com or facebook group: Eton Manor AC or just turn up.

Total Body Toning Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7-8pm.

North Chingford Methodist Church, Station Rd, Chingford.

An uplifting full body resistance workout to tone, strengthen and burn calories. Includes a warm-up, use of weights, Bodybars, gliding discs, rubber tubing, followed by a floorwork and stretching section.

Please phone Lucilla on 07956695077, email lucilla@onestopfitness.co.uk or visit www.onestopfitness.co.uk



Hawks Cricket Club

Saturdays and Sundays, from 4pm.

Jubilee Sports Ground, Highams Park, E4 9RZ.

We have two teams that play in the Essex League (sponsored by Lords International) on Saturdays and two teams that play on Sundays in the Essex Sunday League as well as in friendlies and cup competitions. We are looking for players for next season and would like to start an under 11 colts team. We train at the Peter May Sports Centre every Saturday from 4-6pm.

For more information email charlie.browne@hotmail.co.uk

Zumba with Stephanie

Every Tuesday, 8pm

and every Thursday, 11am.

Forest YMCA, Forest Road, Walthamstow.

Zumba is an exercise class based on Latin dance and rhythms from around the world. Class cost £5 per session.

For more information email stephanieszumba@hotmail.co.uk

Red Onion – Belly Dance classes for adults

Mondays, 11am-12pm –

Larkswood Leisure Centre, New Road, Chingford, E4 9EY.

Mondays, 1-2pm –

Waltham Forest Pool and Track, 170 Chingford Road, Walthamstow, E17 5AA.

Wednesdays, 5-6pm –

Leyton Leisure Lagoon, 763 High Road, Leyton, E10 5AB. Block book 6 sessions for £48.

Drop in sessions £10 each.

Discounts available.

To check eligibility and for further details contact studio@redonion.uk.com or phone 0208 520 3975.

Museum Cycle Ride

Sunday 27 February, 9am.

Meet us at 9am in Walthamstow town square outside the library. For an 18 mile guided cycle ride to the British Museum. Expected return 2pm. Mostly quiet roads. Bring packed lunch or eat at the Museum. **For more information email mat@wfcycling.org.uk**

Wanstead Rugby Club

Sunday mornings 3-5 years and 5-16 years, 10.30am.

Tuesday and Thursday nights seniors, 7pm.

Wanstead RFC, Roding Lane North. We welcome all new players/families to the most friendly rugby club in Essex.

Please phone Nancy or Harry on 0208 527 4469 for more information.

Aikido - the Japanese art of self defence

Tuesdays and Fridays, from 6.30pm.

The Village Drop In, West Avenue (near Orford Road), E17 9QN.

Aikido is suitable for both men and women regardless of age, size etc. Beginners are always welcome. Aikido does not rely on strength or aggression, it is a discipline so is non competitive. Why not come and watch a class and see if it's for you?

For more information visit www.londoneastaikido.co.uk or phone Steve on 07838 387057.



Fitness for Fun

Every Thursday, 8-9pm.

Kelmscott Leisure Centre, Markhouse Road, E17.

Play team sports like basketball and korfbal non competitively. You'll have fun and get fit without even trying. Friendly, mixed bunch of adults of all ages and abilities. First session is free, regular players share the cost of court hire.

Call Bruce on 07786 066383 for more information.

Tell us what's on

walthamforestnews@walthamforest.gov.uk

Clubs and community

Friends on Friday

Every Friday, 2.30-4pm.

Kings Road Baptist Church, Chingford, E4 7EY

Fun, games, short Christian talk, nice cake! All welcome. Yours in His service.

For more information phone

Pastor Tony Keating on 020 8529 4693 or 07956 236072.



Forest Writers Group

Alternate Wednesdays, 7.30-10pm.

The Modern College of Music and Drama, Orford Rd, Walthamstow, E17.

Forest Writers is a creative writing group and we are looking for new members who are actively writing. The group provides an opportunity to meet in a relaxed and friendly environment and members take turns to critique work in a constructive and supportive way. Any type of writing is welcomed. The group would suit anyone who wants feedback or needs that extra motivation, inspiration and encouragement. There is a small annual subscription for members and a nominal fee for room hire that you pay on the night.

To find out more email SarahJoseph92@hotmail.com or call 07870 270844.

Chingford Community Association events

Days and time vary.

6a Weale Road, Friday Hill, Chingford, E4 6JL.

Chingford Community Association provides halls for hire at a very reasonable cost for community clubs and societies. Current activities include: Chingford Chess Club, Forest Art Group, Scribes and Artists Club, Handicrafts Club, Silverthorn

Radio Club, Friday Morning Art Club, Subbuteo Club, Forest Sequence Dance Club, Chingford Photographic Society and a slimming group. Own car park. Nearest buses 397, 212. New members welcome at all clubs. Wheelchair access.

Further details from the Secretary – phone 020 8531 8098.



Chingford Village 'Spring Fayre'

Friday 4 March, 5-10pm.

Chingford Assembly Hall, Station Road, Chingford, E4 7EN. Shop, socialise and eat at an evening of live music and dance. Acts include Chingford Foundation School, Dick "Banjo" Smith and Friends, Danielle Mac on violin and Timothy End on piano. Sabor Flamenco will give a dance display and there will be free children's entertainment and a large variety of craft stalls and fresh local produce. Entry costs £2.50 for adults and £1.50 for children. Tickets are available on the door or can be booked in advance.

For more information phone Irene Bull on 020 8559 4500, email irenebull@hotmail.co.uk or visit www.chingfordevents.com

Bridge practice with tuition

Wednesdays, 2.30-4.30pm

and Thursdays, 7.30-9.30pm.

Horsley Road, Chingford E4 7HX. If you have played or been taught bridge for 6 months or more these practise sessions could be for you. Card play followed by discussion on how the bidding and play could be improved. Small friendly group with a break for tea/ coffee and biscuits. Tuition given by fully qualified Bridge Instructor.

For more information visit www.eastlondonbridge.co.uk or phone Ray Green 020 8281 8376.

Waltham Forest Blind Association

Every Tuesday, 1pm-4pm.

Frederic Street Community Centre, Frederic Street, Walthamstow, E17 8AD.

Drop-in centre includes social outings, one-to-one advice, mobility training, recreational activities and home visits.

For more information phone 020 8556 0355.

Tell us what's on

Call 020 8496 3000

Culture and crafts

Craft classes for adults and children

Days and time vary.

I offer small, friendly craft classes for adults and children from my home in Walthamstow. I offer sewing, knitting, quilting and crochet classes. Contact me to find out more. Visit www.cheekyhandmades.co.uk, email jenniec777@gmail.com or phone 07944 863932 to find out more.

E17 Guitar Club

Thursdays, 8pm.
Modern College of Music,
22 Orford Road, Walthamstow.
Guitar fun for players of all abilities. We perform regularly. £10 per session.
For more information phone Christian Karlsson on 07958 471 083, email chris@stunningmusic.com or visit www.stunningmusic.com.



Wire and bead jewellery making classes

Starting mid March, weekly, daytime or evenings.
Farnan Avenue, E17.
Learn to make your own jewellery with silver or gold plated wire, semi precious and glass beads. Small, affordable classes for beginners and intermediates. Booking required. Course of four two hour lessons from £30.
For more details phone Birgit on 020 8531 4002 or visit www.walthamstowjewellerygroup.webs.com

Strung out! Fun violin group for adults

Every Thursday, 6.30-8pm.
The Modern College of Music and Drama, 22 Orford Road, E17 9NJ.
Have you got a violin in the attic that you want to dust down? Want

to play tunes with other violins? Strung out is a new violin group for adult enthusiasts of all levels with a professional musician whose work spans from the west end to womad. All styles of music welcomed. £10 or £7 for concessions.
For further information please phone Alison on 07740 622 428 or email info@shapeshifter-productions.com

E17 Films workshop – Editing

Tuesday 15 February, 8-10pm.
Rose and Crown Pub,
Hoe Street, Walthamstow.
Workshop looks at editing history; editing techniques; different cuts, transitions and dissolves and case studies Chris Dickens – ‘Slumdog Millionaire’. £5 per workshop or £50 for annual subscription. Fees go to support the Walthamstow International Film Festival.
For more information visit www.e17films.com



Five string banjo lessons

Bluegrass style three-finger picking lessons available for all levels from professional musician with over 20 years experience. Beginners a speciality - private lessons/classes and discount on block bookings.
For further information please phone Dick Smith on 07903 419691 or visit www.myspace.com/banjosmith

Concert by the London Forest Choir

Saturday 12 March, 7.30pm.
St Peter and St Paul Parish Church, Chingford E4.
Concert by The London Forest Choir. Programme: Carl Orff: Carmina Burana and other works.
Tickets available at the door priced £12 or £10 for concessions.

Starlighter Theatre Company

Every Thursday, 8pm.
Foster Hall, Wellesley Rd, Walthamstow.
We are a small friendly group who do three shows a year, musicals, panto and all types of revue. No experience is necessary.
For more details please e-mail Kath at kat4kiefey@yahoo.co.uk or phone 020 8923 5416

Answerphone available. Please leave your details and contact number clearly.

E11 Crafty Knitters

Tuesdays, 3-5pm.
The Salvation Army Hall, Southwell Grove Rd, London E11 4PP.
A friendly group meeting to knit, crochet, sew and all manner of crafty activities. Come and learn something new, chat, drink tea and eat cake. We have experienced knitters ready to share all they know, a needles library and a stash of yarn to help new members get started. The hall has full disabled access.
For more information email E11craftyknitters@yahoo.co.uk or visit <http://e11craftyknitters.blogspot.com/>

The Singing Room - a local community choir

For people who want to sing. Open to the confident, not so confident and positively petrified! It's sociable, it's fun and it develops your vocal skills.
For more details call Anna on 07931372996 or email anna@music-makers.info

‘Son Mas’ - Live Cuban Sextet

Saturday 5 March, 8-11.30pm.
The Theatre, Leytonstone Library, Church Lane, E11 1HG.
All proceeds to the Music Fund for Cuba. The Music Fund provides equipment and materials to students and performing artists throughout Cuba. It is also involved in the restoration of the dilapidated Miramar Theatre in Havana, which will be used as a rehearsal and performance space, and also donates equipment to the Abel Santamaria School for the Blind. Bring your dancing shoes! Tickets £8 in advance or £10 on the door.
To buy tickets phone John on 020 8989 8752 or email john-r-taylor@live.co.uk

Tell us what's on

walthamforestnews@walthamforest.gov.uk

Children and young people

Toddler Group

Every Tuesday from 1 March, 9.15-11.15am.
Christ Church Leyton, 73 Francis Road, E10 6PL.
Toddler Group has been relaunched. There will be lots of toys, stories, snack time,

music and lots of fun. Please join us!
For more information contact Mark Burkill on 020 8539 4980 or visit www.christchurchleyton.org.uk

Pro Star Football Academy

Every Saturday, 10-11am.
Goals Soccer Centre, 3 Morrisons Avenue, E4 8FM.
Football sessions for children 3-5 years. £5 per session.
For more information phone 07535 586027 or email prostarfootballacademy@live.co.uk



New baby massage group

Starting 7 February, 11.30-1pm.
United Reformed Church, Buxton Road, E4.
This group is for mums and babies from 6 weeks to crawling. Come and learn how to be confident in handling your baby. Six-week course £72.
For more information visit www.yoga4birth.co.uk or email info@yoga4birth.co.uk

Bongalong

Mondays and Thursdays.
St Gabriel's Family Centre, Walthamstow E17.
Bongalong provides music, movement and make-believe for babies and children aged 0-5 years. Sessions are run by a local parent and qualified teacher.
For further information or to book a trial session, please phone Fiona on 07811 460282 or 020 8257 7645 or visit www.bongalong.co.uk

Waltham Forest Sea Cadets and Royal Marine Cadets

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7.15-9.30pm.
Kings Road, Chingford.
We are open to young people, male and female, from the ages of 10 to 18 years. Activities include sailing, swimming, physical training, expedition training, seamanship and much more.
For more information phone 020 8529 4473.

Miss Miranda's Music Time

Mondays 1.45pm, Wednesdays 10.15am, Fridays 9.45am and 10.45am.
Mondays and Wednesdays at St Stephens Church, Copeland Road, Walthamstow and Fridays at the Peterhouse Centre, 122 Forest Rise, Walthamstow.
Music sessions for babies and children up to five years old.
Miss Miranda is a fully qualified Music and Drama teacher who uses singing, percussion and musical instruments to dance, create and have fun. Lessons are lively, full of energy and geared to suit all ages, including grown ups.
£5 pay on the day or cheaper course options available.
For more information please see the website www.missmirandasmusic.co.uk or phone Emma on 07956 211 861.

Tennis Coaching

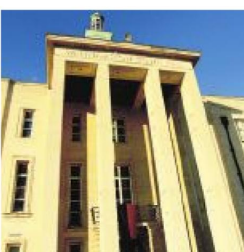
Days and time vary.
Whitehall Tennis Club, Chingford, E4 9HX.
Toddlers, tots and tennis sessions for ages 2-14. Come and learn to play tennis in a fun and friendly environment. Qualified and licensed coaches with CRB checks.
Costs £4-5 per week.
For more information email abatandaball@hotmail.co.uk

Children and Young People's Directory

Compiled by the Council's Family Information Service (FIS), the directory gives free, impartial advice on childcare, general information on a wide range of services for children, young people and families and lists leisure and recreation activities of all kinds.
For more information visit <http://csd.walthamforest.gov.uk>

Tell us what's on

Call 020 8496 3000



Council Meetings

Monday 28 February

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Tuesday 1 March

Planning Committee

Wednesday 2 March

LSP SafetyNet Executive, 2pm

All meetings are held at Waltham Forest Town Hall unless stated otherwise, and start at 7.30pm.

Calling all children's groups

We need more of you to tell us what's happening in your children's and young people's groups.

Do you offer activities or run classes?
Are you looking for volunteers?

Let us have the details and we'll do our best to include them on our What's On pages. Send them to:
walthamforestnews@walthamforest.gov.uk

Our Community

Walthamstow

In brief

Music in the village

The ever-popular 'Music in the village' is back with a performance by world-renowned viol consort (a consort is a small instrumental ensemble and a viol is a six stringed instrument played between the legs like a Cello) 'Fretwork' on Thursday 10 March. The concert, which takes place at St Mary's Church (Church End, Walthamstow, E17 9RJ) from 7.30pm, will feature an arrangement of Bach's Goldberg variations BWV 988. Tickets cost £10 or £5 for concessions. • For more information contact Peter McCarthy on 020 8223 0772, email VillageMusic@WalthamSoft.com or visit <http://VillageMusic.WalthamSoft.com>.

Famous faces at The Standard

Comedian Mark Thomas, well known for his political satire-based comedy, will be among a host of famous faces appearing at The Standard Music Venue in aid of the Fire Brigade Union (FBU) on Wednesday 23 March. The benefit gig, held to raise money for the FBU's hardship fund, will be hosted by Russ Chandler and starts at 7.45pm. Others performing on the night include magician Ian Saville and local bands 'Graham Larkbey and the Escape Committee' and 'Steve White and the Protest Family'. Tickets for the event cost just £10 each.

• Tickets are available from Walthamstow Folk Club (Ye Olde Rose and Crown Theatre Pub, 53 Hoe Street Walthamstow, E17 4SA) or online at www.wegotickets.com/event/107234. Free internet access is available at all libraries in the borough.



Forest Philharmonic

The Forest Philharmonic, Walthamstow's local orchestra, is hosting a concert at Walthamstow Assembly Hall (Forest Road, E17 4JD) on Sunday 27 February. The programme includes Tchaikovsky Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture, Walton Henry V Suite and Berlioz Symphonie Fantastique. Theatre is the theme of this concert, with the Fantasy Overture telling the tale of the two star-crossed lovers. You can hear the story develop from the stormy fight music to the tender love melody and sad, quiet ending. Walton wrote the score for the 1944 film Henry V and this is a suite of music taken from the film, featuring 'Charge and Battle' as well as tender love themes. Symphonie fantastique was written by a love-struck Berlioz, and includes the well-known March to the Scaffold as well as an amazing waltz that showcases two harps and a wild frenetic Witches' Sabbath dance finale to end the evening. The concert will start at 6.30pm. Tickets are available priced £10 for stalls (concessions £8), balcony £14 (concessions £11) and £3 for children and students. • To book tickets phone 01279 814931, email tickets@forestphilharmonic.org.uk or buy in person on the evening.



Instructor Steve Beecham, far right, demonstrates how Aikido can be used to pacify multiple attackers

Give Aikido a go

- Aikido is the Japanese art of self-defence
- Local club encourages people to come along and see a training session for themselves

When you think of martial arts, you might automatically think of high-energy disciplines like Karate, Judo and Kung Fu. But what do you know about the lesser known disciplines?

The Village Drop-in (West Avenue, E17 9QN) in Walthamstow is home to London East Aikido, a martial art that focuses on self defence, rather than attacking an opponent.

Waltham Forest News went along to the dojo (training hall) on a chilly February evening to find out more.

Aikido is a Japanese martial art developed by Morihei Ueshiba based on his martial studies, philosophy, and religious beliefs. Ueshiba's goal was to create an art that practitioners could use to defend themselves while also protecting their attacker from injury.

Instructor Steve Beecham

explains: "Aikido differs from most martial arts because there is no kicking involved and it's non-competitive. It is the Japanese art of self-defence. The idea is to take an attack and move with the attacker to disable them.

"I found the class when a friend brought over the 'What's on' section of Waltham Forest News to my house. We were looking at some of the things that were happening in the borough and the Aikido class listing caught my eye.

"Aikido does not require a high standard of physical fitness, it really is suitable for everyone, whether you're aged 18 or 80. I think everyone should know about this wonderful art."

"Aikido is sometimes called 'the art of peace' because we never intend to hurt or damage the attacker any more than is necessary. We simply use techniques to move our bodies from a place of disadvantage to a place of advantage."

Patricia Blake, from Walthamstow, was taking part in her first Aikido class. She told Waltham Forest News: "I decided to come along to an Aikido class because I wanted to learn self-defence.

"I contacted Steve and he invited me to attend and watch a class. I watched two classes, then decided that I would like to learn myself. Everyone has been very friendly and I really enjoyed my first go at Aikido. I'd definitely encourage people to come along."

Steve added: "Aikido does not require a high standard of physical fitness. It really is suitable for everyone, whether you're aged 18

or 80. I have two students who are retired and practice Aikido because they feel it will help keep them supple and help keep their balance as they get older.

"If anyone is nervous about coming along, I'd urge them not to be. Everyone has to start somewhere and the beginners class on a Tuesday is an ideal place to see if Aikido is for you. I think everyone should know about this wonderful art."

London East Aikido runs session from 6.30-8pm on Tuesdays and Fridays. Beginners are always welcome to watch, so why not go along and see a class for yourself?

More info

For more information on London East Aikido visit www.londoneastaikido.co.uk or phone Steve on 07838 387057.



Pupils Lavi Nielsen, Lina Nielsen, Haleema Ceesay and Rachel Gillan meet Jeanette Kwakye, centre

Olympic inspiration

- Olympic 100 metre finalist Jeanette Kwakye visits three local schools to inspire young athletes
- Waltham Forest school pupils encouraged to enter 2011 London Youth Games

Britain's top female sprinter dropped into three secondary schools in Waltham Forest this month to inspire young people to try out for the 2011 Balfour Beatty London Youth Games

Jeanette Kwakye, the World Indoor silver medallist, visited George Mitchell, Leytonstone and Connaught School for Girls as part of the 2011 Balfour Beatty London Youth Games 'Kick Off Week'. The week is held to recruit young people to take part in the London Youth Games – Europe's largest annual sporting occasion.

Waltham Forest finished 14th overall in the 2010 London Youth Games and

numerous young people won individual medals in sports including judo, athletics, diving, indoor rowing, volleyball, weightlifting and swimming. It is hoped that Team Waltham Forest will finish in the top ten this year.

Jeanette Kwakye, who was born in Waltham Forest, told Waltham Forest News: "Coming to the schools in the area where I grew up and speaking to the kids was amazing. I think the fact that I live round here and I come from the same area as they do shows there's nothing special about me – if I can do it, they can do it too."

She added: "The London Youth Games was always a big social event, but

when I was on the track it was serious. I represented Waltham Forest in the 200m, which I won.

"For me, it is a really good memory. It was a brilliant day out going to meet all the other people from other boroughs."

Among the schoolchildren Jeanette spoke to was 15 year old Connaught pupil Lina Nielsen, who won the 300m in the athletics at the 2010 London Youth Games.

Lina said: "It was really cool to meet Jeanette. The London Youth Games were difficult but really good fun. I had everyone supporting me – it felt really good to win. It was buzzing. It almost felt like an Olympics, but for young people. I'm going to

try again in the 200 metres this year. It feels really special and I'm proud to represent my borough."

Waltham Forest Council is encouraging all young sportsmen and women living in the borough to try out for this year's London Youth Games and represent Team Waltham Forest.

More info

For more information about how you can get involved, contact the Council's Sport and Leisure team on **020 8496 3000**, visit **www.walthamforest.gov.uk/london-youth-games** or email **sports.dev@walthamforest.gov.uk**.

In brief

Half term activities at Buxton

Half term fun is on the cards at Buxton School in Leytonstone as it offers young people sport and social activities and one to one advice and guidance during the school break. In partnership with the Tottenham Hotspur Community Foundation, Leyton Orient, Acti-visports and Youth Support Services "Buxton Extra" is offering a Roller Disco, Football, Multi Sports and a Chill Out Zone. The events are running from Monday 21 to Thursday 24 February between 12 noon and 3pm. Young people aged eight to 19 are welcome to come and join in although parental consent is required.

• To find out more visit **www.buxtonschool.org.uk/index.php/community/buxton-extra.html** or call Carol Moloney on 020 8519 7148.



Primary schools expanded

Councillors have agreed to expand the size of three primary schools to help cope with the increasing pressure on school places in Waltham Forest.

The Woodside School, Gwyn Jones Primary School and Wellington Primary School will all be permanently expanded by one form of entry, subject to planning permission.

Since 2007 Waltham Forest Council has created five permanent expansions in primary schools as well as an extra 41 classes to cope with hundreds of new children moving into the borough while maintaining high educational standards.

The expansions of Woodside, Gwyn Jones and Wellington is part of a wider initiative to expand primary schools as increasing educational attainment and cheap housing are attracting more families to live in Waltham Forest.

As part of the decision, the age range of Wellington Primary School will also be expanded to include nursery pupils with College Gardens Nursery closing and children there transferring to the primary school – which is on the same site.

• For more information about primary school places visit **www.walthamforest.gov.uk/education** or phone the school admissions team on 020 8496 3000.

chitter chatter



Waltham Forest Extended Services Newsletter

February 2011



Hello...

Hello is a campaign for the 'National Year of Communication', and is running throughout 2011. The campaign aims to increase awareness and understanding of how important it is for children and young people to develop good speech, language and communication skills.

Across the country and in Waltham Forest many children are starting school with poor speech, language and communication skills – in some areas of the borough this is as high as 60%!

Hello will provide a range of information, resources and support on typical communication development, how to spot if your child is having difficulties, what to do about it, and where to go for support.

You can find out more by visiting the website www.hello.org.uk, and sign up for updates.

Look out for activities/information that will be happening locally, including the launch event in March and activities through children's centres, early years centres and health centres across the borough. If you would like to support any activities please email; Amanda Baxter, Early Language Consultant amanda.baxter@babcock.co.uk

Come and visit us...

The Family Information Service has moved to
**8 Buxton Road
Walthamstow
E17 7EJ**

The FIS is working alongside the Referral and Assessment Service to strengthen the front door for families requiring information and support.

The service is seconds away from Walthamstow High Street, why not pop in and speak to one of our FIS officers for information on local services, such as childcare, family support, activities, youth clubs and much more for families with children and young people aged 0 to 19 and up to 25 with disability.



You're Hired!

Apprenticeship programme

Are you looking or thinking about taking on an apprentice in your childcare setting?

Employers all need a good, motivated workforce; but where can you find affordable, hard working staff that are willing to learn?

Do you have anyone currently working with you that are under 19 years old?

They could also be an apprentice and you could be contributing to their work development and training.

If you are interested please call the Work Based Learning Team on **020 8520 9430** or email
Soledad Thomas;
soledad.thomas@walthamforest.gov.uk
or
Harpal Rull;
Harpal.Rull@walthamforest.gov.uk

Baby Play Sessions



Come along to Walthamstow Toy Library on Tuesdays 1.30pm to 3.30pm to have some fun.

A rolling programme for babies 0 to 18 months of soft play, messy play, heuristic play and a coffee afternoon of toy loaning. For more information phone **020 8509 3401** or visit www.walthamstowtoylibrary.org



Your local Stop Smoking Service

You are four times more likely to stop smoking with our support.

Waltham Forest's Stop Smoking Service has helped **3,000** people to stop smoking in the last two years.

We offer **FREE**, confidential 1-1 support, drop-in clinics, pharmacy advisors and successful support groups right across the borough.

If you smoke 20 a day, you will save over **£2,000** this year if you stop now.

We are here to help you. Call us today on 020 8430 7443 for help and support to become smoke free.



Successful quitters from Larkwood Primary in Chingford

Find your local Family Information Service Kiosk at the following venues;

Walthamstow Central Library

High Street
Walthamstow
E17 7JN

Outset Centre

2a Grange Road
Walthamstow
E17 8AH

Waltham Forest College

707 Forest Road
Walthamstow
E17 4JB

Chingford Hall Children Centre

Burnside Avenue
Chingford
E4 8YJ

Ridgeway Park Children Centre

82 Peel Close
Chingford
E4 6RE

Leyton Library

High Road
Leyton
E10 5QH

Leytonstone Library

6 Church Lane
Leytonstone
E11 1HG

Leabridge Library

Lea Bridge Road
Leyton
E10 7HU

North Chingford Library

The Green
Chingford
E4 7EN

Oliver Road Polyclinic

75 Oliver Road
Leyton
E10 5LG

Langthorne Health Centre

13 Langthorne Road
Leytonstone
E11 4HX

Wood Street Health Centre Specialist Children's Services

6 Linford Road
Walthamstow
E17 3LA



At the touch of the button, the kiosks provide information on local leisure, health, social, education, council services and activities. The kiosks are free, easy and convenient to use.



FIS Introduces Provider Update

A new, easy to use, online system called **Provider Update** has recently been launched by the Family Information Service (FIS) to allow providers of services for young people and families in Waltham Forest to advertise and manage their own information on the Children and Young People's Directory (CYPD).

Whether you are a childminder, run a nursery, hold a youth club, or belong to any other type of organisation or service that supports families and young people, Provider Update will allow you to update information regarding your setting/service on the CYPD, and, for childcare providers, on the FIS childcare lists. It is completely free and is easily accessible from anywhere at anytime, as long as you have access to the internet!

Other benefits of Provider Update are:

- Your information will stay up-to-date
- Save time and resources on completing forms/calling in with advertising information
- Advertise new services and promote upcoming events
- Advertise your setting your way

If you feel that you could benefit from Provider Update, please call FIS on 020 8496 1235 or email WFFIS@walthamforest.gov.uk.

Discover Your Local Children Centre

Children Centres are a great place for under 5's to learn, play and enjoy. They also offer a wide range of services and activities to children 0-5 years and their families.

Find Your Local Children Centre:

North Area Partnership

Chingford / Highams Park

Chingford Hall Primary School and Children Centre
Burnside Avenue, Chingford, E4 8YJ. Tel: 020 8527 7310

Ridgeway Park Children Centre
82 Peel Close, Chingford, E4 6XQ. Tel: 020 8529 3885

Yardley Primary School and Children Centre
Hawkwood Crescent, Chingford, E4 7PH
Tel: 020 8523 7382 / 020 8529 3671

Yardley Primary
School and
Children Centre

Ridgeway Park
Children Centre

Chingford Hall Primary
School and Children Centre



Central Area Partnership

Walthamstow

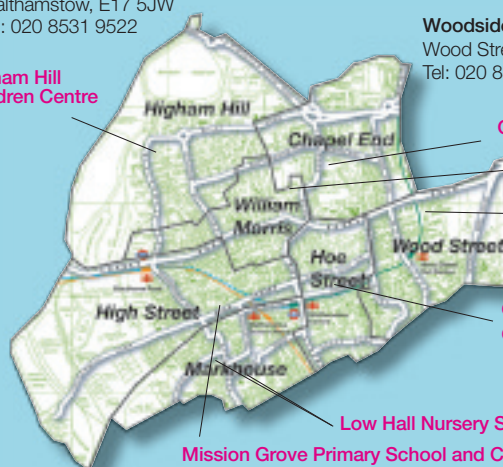
Chapel End Early Years Centre
Brookcroft Road, Walthamstow, E17 4LH
Tel: 020 8527 9192

Church Hill Nursery School and Children Centre
Woodbury Road, Walthamstow, E17 9SB
Tel: 020 8520 4919

Higham Hill Children Centre
313 Billet Road, Walthamstow, E17 5PX
Tel: 020 8527 1737

The Lloyd Park Children Centre
Winns Avenue Entrance, Lloyd Park,
Walthamstow, E17 5JW
Tel: 020 8531 9522

Higham Hill
Children Centre



Low Hall Nursery School and Children Centre
We are based at two sites – Low Hall Nursery School and Queens Road Community Centre.

Children Centre site
Queens Road Community Centre,
215 Queens Road, Walthamstow, E17 8PJ
Tel: 020 8496 2442

For nursery education and childcare for 3-5 year olds please contact:
Low Hall Nursery School, Low Hall Lane,
London, E17 8BE. Tel: 020 8520 1689

Mission Grove Primary School and Children Centre
Buxton Road, Walthamstow, E17 7EJ
Tel: 020 8520 3487

Woodside School and Children Centre
Wood Street, Walthamstow, E17 3JX
Tel: 020 8509 4375

Chapel End Early Years Centre

The Lloyd Park Children Centre

Woodside School and
Children Centre

Church Hill Nursery School and
Children Centre

Low Hall Nursery School and Children Centre

Mission Grove Primary School and Children Centre

South Area Partnership

Leyton/Leytonstone

Acacia Children Centre - Children Centre Services
8 Cathall Road, Leytonstone, E11 4LF
Tel: 020 8496 2960

Acacia Children Centre
Cecil Road, Leytonstone, E11 3HE
Tel: 020 8558 4444

Barclay Primary School and Children Centre
Canterbury Road, Leyton, E10 6EJ
Tel: 020 8518 7015

Davies Lane Primary School and Children Centre
Davies Lane, Leytonstone, E11 3DR
020 8539 2466

Mayville Primary School and Snowberry Children Centre
1 Snowberry Close, Leytonstone, E15 2AH
Tel: 020 8534 3683

Newport Primary School and Children Centre
Dawlish Road, Leyton, E10 6QN
Tel: 020 8539 4552

Riverley Children Centre Services
Community Place, 806 High Road,
Leyton, E10 6AE
Tel: 020 8558 8421

Riverley Primary School and Children Centre
Park Road, Leyton, E10 7BZ
Tel: 020 8539 4535

Sybourn Primary School and Children Centre
2A Perth Road, Leyton, E10 7PB
Tel: 020 3405 2370

Sybourn Primary
School and
Children Centre

Riverley Primary School
and Children Centre

Barclay Primary
School and
Children Centre

Davies Lane
Primary
School and
Children Centre

Acacia Children
Centre

Newport Primary School
and Children Centre

Mayville Primary School and
Snowberry Children Centre



Waltham Forest

Highways

LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14(1) THE WALTHAM FOREST (VARIOUS ROADS) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC AND RESTRICTION ON WAITING AND LOADING) (NO. 2) ORDER 2011 TT08

1. The Council of the London Borough of Waltham Forest HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that on 18th February 2011 it made an Order to enable road marking works to be carried out in a safe and efficient manner in certain roads, the general effect of which will be, only at such times and to such extent as regulatory signs are displayed, to prohibit vehicles (except works vehicles) from certain roads and/or restrict waiting and loading by vehicles (except works vehicles) in certain other roads.

2. Whilst the works are being carried out,

(a) no person shall cause or permit any vehicle to wait or load for any purpose, at any time, in that section of Larkshall Road E4 which lies between the southern boundary of No. 208 Larkshall Road and the southern boundary of No. 285 Larkshall Road;

(b) no person shall cause or permit any vehicle to enter, proceed, wait or load for any purpose, at any time, in the following roads or sections of roads:-

i. Markhouse Avenue;

between the western kerb-line of Station Road and the western kerb-line of Markhouse Road;

ii. Rosebank Grove E17;

iii. Wolsey Avenue E17.

3. Whilst the prohibitions referred to in paragraph 2(b) above remain in force, alternative routes for traffic will be indicated by traffic signs.

4. Vehicles waiting or loading in disregard of this Order will be removed.

5. The restrictions mentioned above will not apply in relation to any vehicle being used -

(a) in connection with the said works; or

(b) for ambulance, fire brigade or police purposes in an emergency, if the works allow.

6. The Order will come into operation on 21st February 2011 and will be valid for a maximum period of 6 months or until the works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

NOTE: These works will not be carried out simultaneously in all roads but in a sequence as directed by the Council. Leaflets will be distributed and signage placed in advance of any works in the above mentioned roads which will give more specific details on the exact dates of the prohibitions, effects of any temporary traffic management and diversion routes as necessary.

Dated 21st February 2011

**Mr K Valavan, Head of Highways and Infrastructure,
Public Realm, Low Hall, Argall Avenue,
London, E10 7AS**

LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14(1) THE WALTHAM FOREST (VARIOUS ROADS) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC AND RESTRICTION ON WAITING AND LOADING) (NO. 3) ORDER 2011 TT11

1. The Council of the London Borough of Waltham Forest HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that it intends making an Order to enable gas reconstruction works to be carried out in a safe and efficient manner in certain roads, the general effect of which would be, only at such times and to such extent as regulatory signs are displayed, to prohibit vehicles (except works vehicles) from certain sections of roads and restrict waiting and loading by vehicles (except works vehicles) in certain other sections of roads.

2. Whilst the works are being carried out,

(a) no person shall cause or permit any vehicle to wait or load for any purpose, at any time, in those sections of:

i. Burwell Road, between the north-western kerb-line of Lea

Bridge Road and a point 20 metres north-west of that kerb-line;

ii. Burwell Road, between a point 20 metres south-east of the south-eastern kerb-line of Wellington Road and a point 20 metres north-west of the north-western kerb-line of Knightleys Court;

iii. Staffa Road, between its boundary with Wellington Road and a point 20 metres north-west of that boundary;

iv. Wellington Road, between its boundary with Staffa Road and a point 20 metres north-east of that boundary;

v. Wellington Road, between the south-western kerb-line of Burwell Road and a point 20 metres south-west of that kerb-line;

(b) no person shall cause or permit any vehicle to enter, for any purpose, at any time, the following sections of roads:-

i. Burwell Road, between the north-western kerb-line of Lea Bridge Road and a point 20 metres north-west of that kerb-line;

ii. Burwell Road, between the south-eastern kerb-line of Knightleys Court and a point 0.5 metres south of that kerb-line.

(c) the existing road closure location at the junction of Wellington Road and Staffa Road shall be suspended.

3. Whilst the prohibitions referred to in paragraph 2(b) above remain in force, alternative routes for traffic would be indicated by traffic signs.

4. Vehicles waiting or loading in disregard of this Order would be removed.

5. The restrictions mentioned above would not apply in relation to any vehicle being used -

(a) in connection with the said works; or

(b) for ambulance, fire brigade or police purposes in an emergency, if the works allow.

6. The Order would come into operation on 21st March 2011 and would be valid for a maximum period of 1 month or until the works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

Dated 21st February 2011

**Mr K Valavan, Head of Highways and Infrastructure,
Public Realm, Low Hall, Argall Avenue,
London, E10 7AS**

LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14(1) THE WALTHAM FOREST (VARIOUS ROADS) (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION ON WAITING AND LOADING) (NO. 1) ORDER 2011 TT07

1. The Council of the London Borough of Waltham Forest HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that on 18th February 2011 it made an Order to enable road marking works to be carried out in a safe and efficient manner in certain roads, the general effect of which will be, only at such times and to such extent as regulatory signs are displayed, to restrict waiting and loading by vehicles (except works vehicles) in certain roads.

2. Whilst the works are being carried out, no person shall cause or permit any vehicle to wait or load for any purpose, at any time, in the following roads or sections of roads:-

i. Beacontree Road;

ii. Browning Road;

iii. Bushwood between its junction with Browning Road and its junction with Stanmore Road;

iv. Forest View;

v. Hartley Road;

vi. John Drinkwater Close;

vii. Leybourne Road;

viii. Leyspring Road;

ix. Stanmore Road between the northern boundary of No. 5 Stanmore Road and the south-western boundary of No. 12 Stanmore Road;

x. Woodville Road; between the northern boundary of No. 42 Leyspring Road and its junction with Bushwood.

3. Vehicles waiting or loading in disregard of this Order will be removed.

4. The restrictions mentioned above will not apply in relation to any vehicle being used -

(a) in connection with the said works; or

(b) for ambulance, fire brigade or police purposes in an

emergency, if the works allow.

5. The Order will come into operation on 21st February 2011 and will be valid for a maximum period of 4 months or until the works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

NOTE: These works will not be carried out simultaneously in all roads but in a sequence as directed by the Council. Leaflets will be distributed and signage placed in advance of any works in the above mentioned roads which will give more specific details on the exact dates of the restrictions.

Dated 21st February 2011

**Mr K Valavan, Head of Highways and Infrastructure,
Public Realm, Low Hall, Argall Avenue,
London, E10 7AS**

Planning

LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990 - SECTION 67

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following application for a building within a Conservation Area has been made to this Authority.

APPL.NO 2011/0161

APPLICANT Haywards House Flat Management Co.

ADDRESS 11 Orford Road Walthamstow E17 9LP

PROPOSAL Installation of 2m high railings with gate.

APPL.NO 2011/0145

APPLICANT Mrs R Yousaf

ADDRESS 40 Eden Road, Walthamstow, London E17 9UT

PROPOSAL Construction of 2 storey building for gymnasium/games area at rear fronting Randolph Road E17.

TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 1995 - NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following application for planning permission has been made to the Council for which additional publicity is required.

APPL.NO 2011/0146

APPLICANT Mr Douglas Ward

ADDRESS Whipps Cross Hospital Whipps Cross Road Leytonstone, London E11 1NR

PROPOSAL (1) Construction of single storey front and rear extension to enlarge maternity unit. (2) Construction of single storey covered link extension to out patient unit.

The application is open to inspection by the Public at the offices of the Development Management, Sycamore House, Town Hall Complex, Forest Road, London E17 4JP between the hours of 9.00a.m. - 5.00p.m. Monday to Friday. Any representations relating to the application should be made in writing to the Planning Division within 21 days of the date of this Notice.

Dated 21st February 2011 2011

**David Scourfield – Head of Development
Management on Behalf of London Borough
of Waltham Forest**

TARGET YOUR CUSTOMERS SUCCESSFULLY

With 110,000 copies delivered to homes & business in Waltham Forest.

“Taking out a full ad on the back page was certainly the right thing to do. The response has been unbelievable. Since its publication, we have been inundated with calls with regards to our family activity centre and wider services.”

Stephen Barnabis - Tumble in the Jungle -
www.tumbleinthejungle.co.uk

“The session went very well - we had enough people attend to mean that we can go ahead with running the course next year. Thanks for your help with the advert.”

Chris Hatfield - Birkbeck, University of London -
www.bbk.ac.uk

**Don't waste time, to advertise in Waltham Forest News please
call 020 8496 3000 (press option 6) and ask for Eva Jaber
or email: advertisingwfn@walthamforest.gov.uk**

We reach more people than any other local publication



Events for International Women's Day 8th March 2011

International Women's Day on 8 March 2011 is the Global Centenary Year. For 100 years we have celebrated the economic, political and social achievements of women past and present and inspired future generations of women.

To celebrate it in Waltham Forest a series of events are planned, which are open to all women. Some access information is provided but if you need extra accessibility information please contact the individual organiser.

A Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of International Women's Day

**Saturday 5th March 6.00 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.
Walthamstow Academy, Billet Road, E17 5DP**

Parking, Bus 158

Waltham Forest Women's Network invites all local women to join us for:

- Stalls by local women's groups offering information, tasters and pampering
- Entertainment with performances by local singers and dancers
- Buffet supper, dancing, raffle prizes.

**Tickets £5.00 per adult, children under 5 free.
Entrance strictly by ticket only**

For further information and tickets contact Shireen on **07939 646 849** or Alison on **07906 553 893** or Email **admin@wfnw.net** Website: **www.wfnw.net**

Progressive Women- Information and Education Fair

Tuesday, 8th March 2011 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Walthamstow Library, High Street, Walthamstow, E17 7JN

Free advice, workshops and information for all aged 16 and up.

- Professional advice
- Information stands
- Workshops
- Fashion show
- Author talk
- Black women artists' work on show until the 31st March.
- Author events on 8th March (6.30pm-9.30pm) by Amnesty International

Contact: Jyoti Singh/Jonathan Bell for more details: Tel: 020 8496 5132
Email: wf.libs@walthamforest.gov.uk

Disability access: The building is fully accessible and the event is on the ground floor. Disabled toilet.

FREE women only activities

Tuesday, 8th March 2011

GLL operated leisure centres

Open Day offering FREE women only activities for Waltham Forest residents. Come and try taster sessions –

- Zumba dance
- Salsa
- Body conditioning
- Pilates
- Step n Sculpt exercise class
- Women only swimming sessions
- Badminton
- Coached football
- Aerobiking sessions
- 55+ sessions.

For more information please visit: www.gll.org

Crime Prevention for Women

Tuesday 8th March 3 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Wood Street Library, Forest Road, Walthamstow E17 4AA

Wood Street Safer Neighbourhoods Team will be offering crime prevention and personal safety advice for women, and giving out free personal attack alarms, purse cables and purse bells, which deter pickpockets.

Contact: 020 8496 1155

Open Day

Tuesday 8th March 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Harrow Green Library, Cathall Road, Leytonstone E11

Look for information on health, careers, join the library, use the computers FREE.

For more details contact: Nigel and Marilyn 020 8496 1063

Using a Spreadsheet to prepare a personal or family budget

Tuesday 8th March 10 a.m. - 12 noon

Flexible Learning Centre, Harrow Green Library, Cathall Road, Leytonstone E11

Open Day - Visit Your Local Library

Tuesday 8th March 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Higham Hill Library, North Countess Road, E17

Look for information on health, careers, join the library, use the computers FREE.

For more details contact:
Marilyn 020 8496 1173



Disability access:
The event is on the
ground floor, all on
one level no steps
or ramps. Disabled
toilets